

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A digital camera, comprising:

a motion picture recording unit configured to obtain ~~which obtains~~ a motion picture by continuously recording the motion picture ~~it~~, and a still picture recording/storage unit composed of a still picture recording unit configured to record ~~which records~~ a still picture by releasing a shutter and a picture storage unit configured to store ~~which stores~~ the still picture;

a compression unit configured to compress ~~which compresses~~ the respective frames constituting the motion picture and provides compressed motion picture data in a predetermined operation mode;

an interface unit configured to output ~~which outputs~~ the compressed motion picture data in an appropriate format and to output the still picture;

a multiplex unit configured to output the compressed motion picture and the still picture by time-division multiplexing; and

a picture selection unit configured to permit ~~which permits~~ a user to select a picture by any of the recording of a the still picture by releasing the shutter and the designation of a picture stored in the picture storage unit,

wherein the compression unit comprises a selected picture output unit configured to provide ~~which provides~~, when the user selects a picture by the picture selection unit, the selected picture ~~as it is~~ without compressing the selected picture ~~it~~ instead of the compressed motion picture data.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): A digital camera according to claim 1, wherein the selected picture output unit comprises a still picture compression unit configured to compress

~~which compresses~~ the selected picture at a still picture compression rate that is ~~generally~~ lower than the compression rate of the compression unit to thereby provide the selected picture by compressing the selected picture ~~it~~ at the still picture compression rate instead of the compressed motion picture data.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A digital camera according to claim 1, wherein the compression unit configured to provide ~~which provides~~ the compressed motion picture data further comprises a picture reduction unit configured to thin ~~which thins~~ out the pixels of the respective frames by a predetermined procedure.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A digital camera according to claim 2, wherein the selected picture output unit further comprises a gray scaling unit configured to gray scale ~~which gray scales~~ color picture data and a unit configured to allow ~~which permits~~ the user to select any of the still picture compression unit ~~which compresses~~ the selected picture and the gray scaling unit.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A digital camera according to claim 2, wherein the selected picture output unit further comprises:

a binarizing unit configured to binarize ~~which binarizes~~ picture data; and
a unit configured to allow ~~which permits~~ the user to select any of the still picture compression unit and the binarizing unit in the compression of the selected picture.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A digital camera according to claim 1, wherein the picture selection unit comprises the shutter, a release button of the shutter, and a motion picture selection unit configured to use ~~which uses~~ a picture recorded in relation to the

manipulation of the release button manipulated by the user in the predetermined operation mode as a selected picture.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A digital camera according to claim 1, wherein the picture selection unit comprises a unit configured to allow ~~which permits~~ the user to select a still picture from the still pictures stored in the picture storage unit.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A digital camera according to claim 7, further comprising an external storage device interface unit configured to allow ~~which permits~~ data to be transmitted between a detachable external storage device and the picture storage unit biaxially as well as the external storage device interface unit configured to allow ~~permits~~ the detachable external storage device unit to be mounted and dismounted in ~~the~~ a predetermined operation mode.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A digital camera according to claim 1, wherein the still picture recording unit and the motion picture recording selection ~~selection~~ unit comprise a unit configured to obtain ~~which obtains~~ the selected picture by combining two pictures recorded continuously in time.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A digital camera according to claim 1, further comprising a selection button configured to permit ~~for permitting~~ the user to designate a ~~the~~ rate ~~(which is referred to as the selected picture transmission rate rate)~~ of the a ~~amount (which is referred to as the selected picture transmission amount amount)~~ of the selected picture, ~~which is~~ the selected picture being transmitted during a still picture output period from the start of output of the selected picture to the end of output thereof to ~~the~~ a total ~~amount (which~~

~~is referred to as the total transmission amount amount)~~ of the selected picture and a motion picture which are output during the selected picture output period, wherein

the multiplex unit ~~compression unit further comprises: a unit which outputs the selected picture and the compressed motion picture data by~~ is further configured to perform time-division multiplexing of the selected picture and the motion picture ~~them~~ so that a designated selected picture transmission rate is achieved when the user selects a picture by the picture selection unit at a time the selected picture transmission rate is designated to other than 100%.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A digital camera according to claim 1, wherein the multiplex unit is included in the compression unit ~~further comprises a multiplex unit which outputs, and is further configured to output,~~ when the user selects a picture by the picture selection unit, the selected picture by time-division multiplexing the selected picture ~~it~~ and the compressed motion picture data, ~~as well as~~ and the multiplex unit comprises a unit ~~which increases~~ configured to increase the transmission rate of the compressed motion picture data when the data amount of the selected picture is relatively small and decreases the transmission rate of the compressed motion picture data when the data amount of the selected picture is relatively large.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A digital camera according to claim 1, further comprising:

a picture display unit configured to display ~~which displays~~ a picture;

a picture input unit configured to receive ~~which receives~~ picture data from an external device ~~the outside~~;

a separation unit configured to separate ~~which separates~~ a selected still picture (~~i.e., a selected picture~~) from the received picture data and stores the selected still picture ~~it~~ in the picture storage unit, and an expansion unit configured to expand ~~which expands~~ the picture data (~~i.e., a motion picture~~) ~~having that~~ passed through the separation unit separator; and
a unit configured to cause ~~which causes~~ the user to designate which of the output from the compression unit and the received picture data is to be displayed,
wherein ~~whereby~~ the user can selectively observe picture data being transmitted and the received picture data.

Claim 13 (Cancelled).

Claim 14 (New): The digital camera according to Claim 1, wherein the interface unit is further configured to output the still picture in an uncompressed format.